

Summary
Public Safety Workgroup Recommendations
Passed Workgroup on June 11, 2013
Presented for Review July 25, 2013

Recommendation Number	Proposal
PS-20	<i>Recommends the Virginia Department of Emergency Management and the Virginia Department of Fire Programs collaborate in the development of a template for use by localities in developing their own local plans for the integration of first responders.</i>
PS-21	<i>Recommends the Amendment of § 18.2-308.2. Currently, the convicted felon statute has three categories – (i) any person convicted of a felony; (ii) any person adjudicated delinquent as a juvenile 14 years of age or older at the time of the offense who is convicted of capital murder, first- or second-degree murder, kidnapping, robbery or rape; (iii) any person under the age of 29 who was adjudicated delinquent as a juvenile 14 years of age or older at the time of the offense of a delinquent act that would be a felony if committed by an adult. This provision changes category ii, by adding forcible sodomy and object penetration to the list of crimes. Rape, forcible sodomy, and object penetration are all five-to-life crimes. Plea agreements will not be affected. The General Assembly previously aligned all three statutes to keep penalties consistent. An additional change would be to take out the “14 years of age or older at the time of the offense” piece. Gun rights would be lost, no matter when they were adjudicated. Like an adult, they would still have ability to petition the Circuit Court to get their gun rights back.</i>
PS-22	<i>Recommends that all Virginia colleges and universities consider participation in the Certified Crime Prevention Campus. This program is modeled after DCJS’ Certified Crime Prevention Community Program, which publicly recognizes and certifies localities that have implemented community safety strategies. The Campus Program recognizes and certifies those public and private accredited colleges or universities in Virginia that have met the program requirements which specifically relate to campus crime prevention. The program is a one-of-a-kind in the nation.</i>
PS-23	<i>Recommends the “Virginia Center for School Safety” of the Department of Criminal Justice Services be changed in legislative code to the “Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety” in order to highlight and include the legislative mandates relating to institutions of higher education.</i>
PS-24	<i>Recommends the formation of a standing committee at the state level consisting of design and architect professionals, school officials, police/sheriffs, fire officials, emergency managers and building officials dedicated to addressing conflicts in law and regulations regarding infrastructure improvements on new and/or exiting institutions and establishing best practices for such to localities.</i>
PS-25	<i>Recommends the addition of “campus police officer” to the definition of “law enforcement officer in paragraph F of section § 18.2-57 (assault and battery), which has increased penalties for assault and battery against certain individuals. (paragraph C)</i>

	<p>C. In addition, if any person commits an assault or an assault and battery against another knowing or having reason to know that such other person is a judge, a law-enforcement officer as defined hereinafter, a correctional officer as defined in § 53.1-1, a person employed by the Department of Corrections directly involved in the care, treatment or supervision of inmates in the custody of the Department, a firefighter as defined in § 65.2-102, or a volunteer firefighter or lifesaving or rescue squad member who is a member of a bona fide volunteer fire department or volunteer rescue or emergency medical squad regardless of whether a resolution has been adopted by the governing body of a political subdivision recognizing such firefighters or members as employees, engaged in the performance of his public duties, such person is guilty of a Class 6 felony, and, upon conviction, the sentence of such person shall include a mandatory minimum term of confinement of six months.</p> <p>F. As used in this section: "Law-enforcement officer" means any full-time or part-time employee of a police department or sheriff's office that is part of or administered by the Commonwealth or any political subdivision thereof who is responsible for the prevention or detection of crime and the enforcement of the penal, traffic or highway laws of the Commonwealth;; any conservation officer of the Department of Conservation and Recreation commissioned pursuant to § 10.1-115;; any special agent of the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control;; conservation police officers appointed pursuant to § 29.1-200;; and full-time sworn members of the enforcement division of the Department of Motor Vehicles appointed pursuant to § 46.2-217;; and such officer also includes jail officers in local and regional correctional facilities;; all deputy sheriffs, whether assigned to law-enforcement duties, court services or local jail responsibilities;; auxiliary police officers appointed or provided for pursuant to §§ 15.2-1731 and 15.2-1733;; auxiliary deputy sheriffs appointed pursuant to § 15.2-1603;; police officers of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority pursuant to § 5.1-158, and; fire marshals appointed pursuant to § 27-30 when such fire marshals have police powers as set out in §§ 27-34.2 and 27-34.2:1; and <i>campus police officers appointed under Chapter 17 (§ 23-232 et seq.) of Title 23.</i></p>
PS-26	<p><i>Recommends that all campus police departments have the following minimum training standards::</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>All campus police departments should be required to meet a set of minimal operational standards set by the Department of Criminal Justice Services, in order to be certified as Virginia police departments. These minimal standards will guarantee uniformity of operations in campus police departments that will reduce risk liability and increase professional performance.</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Likewise, all campus security or public safety departments without law enforcement authority should be required to meet a set of minimal operational standards, set by the Department of Criminal Justice Services, in order to be certified as Virginia campus security or public safety agencies. These minimal standards will guarantee uniformity of operations in security and campus safety that will reduce risk liability and increase professional performance.</i></p>
PS-27	<p><i>Recommends the following best practices and policy considerations for all (including private) institutions of higher education:</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>As a proven best practice, every institution of higher education should have in</i></p>

	<p><i>place a formal Threat Assessment Team.</i></p> <p><i>□ Any institution of higher education that does not have campus-based mental health services should establish written memorandum of understanding with its local community services board or behavioral health authority.</i></p> <p><i>□ Every institution of higher education should participate in the multi-disciplinary response to sexual assault, as required by state law, by participating in their local Sexual Assault</i></p> <p><i>□ Response Team (SART) to include transportation needs and providing appropriate resources to all students.</i></p> <p><i>□ All institutions of higher education should have in place memorandums of understanding for mutual aid responses for a public safety crisis that may occur on a campus. The Department of Criminal Justice Services and its Virginia Center for School Safety should provide support through model training policies and standards relevant to the police departments and security agencies.</i></p> <p><i>□ All institutions of higher education should develop and make available to its community its specific policy on firearms and weapons on their campuses.</i></p>
PS-28	<p><i>Recommends funding should be provided to the Virginia Center for School Safety within the Department of Criminal Justice Services to provide policy and training support for and coordinate with the campus police departments and security agencies.</i></p>
PS-29	<p><i>Recommends that the Virginia Community College System (VCCS), with assistance from other appropriate government agencies, should determine what actions can be taken to properly fund the initial and continuing costs (capital and non-capital/operating costs) of providing adequate campus law enforcement and/or safety & security services, including necessary memorandums of understanding with local law enforcement agencies.</i></p>